

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In the Patent Application of

Eric J. Hansen and
Jesse J. Williams

Serial No.: 09/589,973

Filed: June 8, 2000

For: EXTRACTION CLEANING WITH
OXIDIZING AGENT

Group Art Unit: 1796

Examiner: Necholus Ogden Jr.

RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is Applicants Amended Supplemental Appeal Brief for filing in the above-identified U.S. patent application. This Amended Supplemental Appeal Brief is responsive to a Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed January 14, 2009. This Amended Supplemental Appeal Brief set forth below was originally mailed September 22, 2008 in response to a Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed August 21, 2008. During the course of a telephonic interview between Dr. Hessler, an assistant to the undersigned attorney, and Examiner Ogden on January 23, 2009, it was agreed that the original Amended Supplemental Appeal Brief mailed September 22, 2008 was compliant and that the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed January 14, 2009 was sent in error. The Examiner requested Applicants to resubmit Applicants' Amended Supplemental Appeal Brief as originally mailed September 22, 2008

Please substitute for Paragraph V of the Appeal Brief as filed with the new Paragraph V set forth below.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The invention relates to a method for cleaning an upholstery or carpet surface in which a fluid carpet or upholstery cleaning solution is dispensed onto the upholstery or carpet surface to be cleaned and the cleaning solution is recovered from the surface with suction.

Application, p. 29, ln. 30 – p. 30, ln. 4; p. 36, ln. 30- p. 37, ln. 12. The cleaning solution can be mixed with an oxidizing agent to enhance the cleaning performance. *Application, p. 38, ln. 13-23, p. 39, ln. 30- p. 40, ln. 2.*

As set forth in claims 18 and 21, an oxidizing agent is admixed with the cleaning solution prior to dispensing the cleaning solution onto the upholstery or carpet surface in a fluid application system 950 comprising a fluid supply chamber 49 and a detergent supply tank 870. *Application, Figure 17; p. 16, ln. 23-29.* The oxidizing agent and cleaning solution can be mixed in the fluid supply chamber 49 or the oxidizing agent and cleaning solution can be mixed in the detergent supply tank 870 and mixed with water in appropriate amounts in a mixing valve 310. *Application, p. 38, ln. 24-31.*

According to claim 18, the admixed solution is further mixed with air that has been heated prior to mixing. This can be accomplished by a liquid delivery nozzle assembly 1220. *Application, Figure 23.* The liquid delivery nozzle assembly 1220 comprises a liquid supply channel 1246 and heated air conduits 1242 and 1244. *Application, p. 42, ln. 14.* Air is supplied to the heated air conduits 1242, 1244 by a motor with an impellor 1248 that is connected with a motor output duct 1250. A heat exchanger 1252 is positioned in the motor output duct 1250 for heating the air which passes from the motor output duct 1250 to the heated air conduits 1242, 1244. *Application, p. 42, ln. 20-21; ln. 23-26.* The heated air from the conduits 1242, 1244 combines with the liquid from the liquid supply channel 1246 to heat the liquid prior to being dispensed from a nozzle opening 1224. *Application, p. 42, ln. 26-28.*

According to claim 21, the cleaning solution is heated before mixing with the oxidizing solution. The cleaning solution can be heated in an in-line heater 54 that is part of the fluid application system 950. *Application, p. 17, ln. 15-17; p.40, ln. 21-23.* Experimentation has shown that heating the cleaning solution in combination with an oxidizing agent enhances cleaning. *Application, p. 40, ln. 26-27.*

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the Appeal Brief, as amended, satisfies the Office requirements and is in condition for the Examiner's Answer.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 3, 2009

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